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16 January 1948

MEMORANDUM TO: Assistant Director, Reports and Estimates

SUBJECT: Report of the Stout Committee on External Research Programs through Exploitation of American Institutional Possibilities.

REFERENCE: ORE Operating Procedure No. 45-47.

1. This office has reviewed the subject report and offers the following comments and observations on each section of the report in turn:

a. Section I. Research Programs:

(1) Fulfillment of the national intelligence mission requires a total intelligence effort; nothing less will meet the intelligence requirements of total peace, or total war.

(2) A total intelligence effort involves mobilization of all available facilities in support of a systematic and planned program for the reduction and elimination of doubt and uncertainty regarding economic, scientific, technical, political, sociological, psychological, and military conditions and situations in all foreign countries. It is believed that the required effort is beyond the physical capabilities of facilities organic to CIA and the IAC agencies.

(3) While CIA and the IAC agencies have assigned responsibilities for meeting the intelligence requirements in support of the national security, other Governmental agencies, U. S. universities and private research institutes are conducting, or have the capacity to conduct research which can contribute to the over-all U. S. intelligence effort.

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(4) Effective utilization of all available facilities involves a careful inventory and evaluation of:

(a) Responsibilities on the part of CIA and the IAC agencies, on one hand, and,

(b) Specific capacity and propriety to conduct effective research in specified fields of inquiry at the CIA, IAC, Governmental, university, and private research institute levels on the other.

(5) While considerable progress has been made in developing a program for the production of basic intelligence in terms of CIA and IAC requirements and responsibilities, little is known precisely of the specific potential of other Governmental and non-governmental agencies to contribute research support to this program.*

(6) The potential of Governmental and non-governmental agencies to conduct such research is high. This statement is based upon the facts that: a substantial amount of unclassified material, such as of the foreign press, periodicals, books and other data, is not fully exploited for all intelligence purposes by CIA and the IAC agencies in view of their required processing of the vast quantities of classified material available from overt and covert sources; and high degree of individual competence for research in many fields of inquiry exists in each case. However, it is believed ill-advised to consider utilization of any single category of research facilities, i.e., Governmental agencies, universities, and private institutes, independently of one another, or of the over-all intelligence program. (Reference paragraph 4 above.)

(7) In view of the foregoing, and in consideration of the attached report, it is concluded that:

(a) The utilization of non-governmental research facilities in support of the U. S. intelligence effort is:

i. Desirable and necessary;

ii. Ill-advised unless considered in conjunction with a comprehensive and coordinated plan based upon consideration of paragraphs 4, 5, and 6 above; and

* While other Governmental and non-governmental facilities have been effectively employed in intelligence activities such instances have been based not on a comprehensive plan but rather on a single project basis.

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iii. A matter of common concern to CIA and the IAC agencies.

(b) CIA's role in this respect should consist of:

i. Determining, in collaboration with the IAC agencies, the specific capabilities of other Governmental and non-governmental agencies to conduct research in fields of inquiry relevant to the national intelligence mission.

ii. Determining, in collaboration with the IAC agencies, over-all requirements for intelligence research appropriate to the pre-determined capabilities of Governmental and non-governmental agencies.

iii. Preparing and executing a comprehensive interdepartmental plan for the exploitation of such research capabilities.

(c) Subject to modifications indicated by the foregoing, this office concurs in the recommendations relevant to Section I of the report.

(d) Plans and Policy Staff is the appropriate office within ORE to carry out the ORE responsibilities for this program.

b. With respect to Section II. (Part-Time Area and Subject Advisors.)

Adequate authority and provision for part-time consultants already exists. It is suggested that Administrative Staff prepare an ORE Operating Procedure setting forth relevant details for information and guidance of all concerned. In this respect the procedure should provide for required notice to OO in each case where ORE desires to retain part-time consultants.

c. With respect to Section III. (Foreign Mission Programs for CIA Personnel.) Concur, provided that instructions to personnel so selected are explicit and in support of a legitimate CIA objective, and that review of results obtained in each case reveals intrinsic values to CIA.

d. With respect to Section IV. (Work Programs in CIA for Graduate Students.) Concur.

e. With respect to Section V. (Foreign and Domestic Post-Graduate Study for CIA Personnel.)

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Concur, provided that such graduate study is integrated with the university phase of the external research program, wherever practicable, and further provided that formal commitment on the part of CIA personnel selected for such training to remain in CIA for a specified number of years is required.

2. With respect to Section VI. (CIA Sponsored Training and Personnel Recruitment Programs.) Concur.

2. It is recommended that:

a. Plans and Policy Staff be assigned responsibility for the preparation of a detailed plan of operation for this program based on paragraph 1a above, and upon approval of the plan, responsibility for its execution.

b. Augmentation of the Plans and Policy Staff by one professional and one clerical personnel be authorized for this purpose.

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Chief, Plans and Policy Staff

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